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Arab Leaders Call General Strike In Palestine

VIOLENCE IN DAMASCUS

Jerusalem, Nov. 30.—The Arab Higher Committee today ordered a countrywide general strike for three days, beginning on Tuesday. The Committee, after an all-day meeting, passed a resolution rejecting outright the decision of the United Nations to partition Palestine. The Committee further directed a complete boycott of all Jews, and any one dealing with a Jew would be considered a traitor.

Underground Movements To Mobilise

Jerusalem, Nov. 30.—The Jewish underground, Hagannah, and two major Arab underground organisations are expected to begin general mobilisation of recruits within the next few days following the decision on Palestine by the United Nations General Assembly.

A tense atmosphere exists in the Holy Land with the report that the Hagannah will issue orders on Monday for Jewish men and women between 19 and 25 to register with the Man-Power Control Committee for national defence.

Indications today pointed to imminent disaster. The Hagannah Army placed its estimated 80,000 members in important Jewish residential areas and deployed units from major Jewish cities from north to south and also on the Syrian frontier.

It was reported that there would be an outbreak of civil disobedience next Saturday, during which time the Arabs would ignore all laws.

It was reliably learned that all Arab states will send men and money to Palestine Arabs to resist the implementation of partition. But a major clash would only occur when the United Nations try to force the partition on Palestine Arabs. Then they will resist and will get full support from all Arab states. The authority of the United Nations will thus be seriously tested.—United Press.

It resolved "to adopt the necessary preliminary measures for implementing a non-co-operation policy in preparation for declaring a state of emergency in Palestine." Instructions would be announced in due course, the Committee added.

The Committee also decided to inform the High Commissioner of Palestine that they considered Britain "solely responsible" for the partition, since Arabs considered Palestine to be their land. The Committee further considered Britain's "failure" as a serious matter, "which may lead to Arabs breaking off of relations with Britain."

The Committee issued a manifesto to all Arabs declaring the United Nations decision to partition Palestine null and void. The manifesto was signed by "Kingdoms" established on dead bodies and skulls. Let Jews realize that they will first have to re-occupy the land before they can have waves of waves of met.

U.S. LEGATION ATTACKED

Syrian demonstrators today attempted to attack the United States Legation in Damascus as a protest against the United Nations decision to partition Palestine, according to British-controlled Near East Arab Broadcasting Station.

The demonstrators today burned down the Communist Party headquarters and attacked a Belgian bank in the Syrian capital. Three cars were reported to have been set on fire at the United States Legation.

The demonstrators, according to the Radio which broadcast in Arabic, took place after the President of Syria had addressed a crowd outside his palace.

The President was reported to have vehemently criticised the partition scheme and demonstrations were said to be aimed against the representatives of those countries which backed the United Nations decision.

PRISON FRACAS

Police wardens today fired on Arab prisoners in Acre central prison, who attacked Jewish prisoners while they were exercising. It was officially stated tonight.

The prisoners were believed to have suffered casualties. The Jews were sent back to their cells without casualties, it was added.

Police reinforcements were sent to the prison and troops were standing by tonight.—Reuter.

"CRAZY QUILT"

New York Nov. 30.—Palestine is to be cut up like a crazy quilt under the partition plan approved last night by the United Nations General Assembly. Part will become a Jewish country, part an Arab country. Near the centre, a tiny portion, roughly circular and taking in Jerusalem and Bethlehem, will become an international zone.

The Holy Land on the map looks like a semicircular blade with the edge facing eastward. The southern third or so of this, bordering Egypt, taken in the dry Negeb, and Beersheba sections, in Negeb, the Jews get the biggest chunk of this third. On the coast the Arabs get a little strip with an arm cutting down at right angles along the border. The middle part of Palestine lies between the Dead Sea and the River Jordan on the East and the Mediterranean on the West.

The Jews get a narrow strip on the coast, including some citrus country, the all Jewish Tel-Aviv and the port of Haifa. The Arabs get the rest of this part of the Holy Land and also the port of Jaffa, a tiny circle of Arab rule surrounded by the Jewish coastland.

In Northern Palestine, the Jews are given a narrow strip on the east running around the Sea of Tiberias, usually called Galilee in the New Testament, and on up to the Lebanese frontier. The Arabs get the rest of the northern end of Palestine, including Acre on the coast and Nazareth and Safad inland. In all, there are three Jewish areas and three Arab areas. At two points they cross—about halfway between Jaffa and Gaza and just south of Nazareth.—Associated Press.

INTERIM AID FOR CHINA SIGNS HOPEFUL

Washington, Nov. 30.—Informed quarters here today predicted that the United Nations Senate would approve if the House of Representatives goes ahead with its plan to give China \$60,000,000 interim aid in the immediate future, and that the administration would not object provided the cuts the House made in the European aid programme were restored.

The Bill, according to reports from the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, proposed to cut the interim aid for Europe by over \$100,000,000 and include China in the list of recipients.

Senator Arthur Vandenberg, the President of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is likely to insist on the cuts to Europe being restored in the interim aid bill, but is not expected to raise any objections to helping China.—Reuter.

TRANSPORT PLANE CRASH: 15 FEARED KILLED

Seattle, Nov. 30.—An Alaska Airlines four-engine transport plane crashed and burned while attempting a landing at Seattle-Tacoma Bow Lake airport here today.

First reports said 15 of the 27 persons on board were killed. Rescue crews were probing the smoldering wreckage for other possible victims of the crash, which occurred when the pilot apparently over-shot the runway while attempting to land.

REPORT OF COMMUNIST MERGER

London, Nov. 30.—The Sunday Observer's diplomatic correspondent said today that he had learned from reliable sources that a proposal to merge the Communist parties of Eastern Europe into one Federal State was discussed at a recent meeting at Sochi between Generalissimo Josef Stalin and the Bulgarian Premier, Georgi Dimitroff.

Under this plan, the Observer said, Communist countries with a population of between 60,000,000 and 90,000,000 would for a new great power be linked with the Soviet Union.

The newspaper said it appeared to have been decided to work first towards a Yugoslav-Bulgarian federation as the nucleus, since the capital of the new United Eastern Europe would be Belgrade.

SIGNIFICANT VISITS

"Great importance is thus attached in Eastern European diplomatic circles in London to last week's State visits of Marshal Tito to Sofia and of the Hungarian Prime Minister, Lajos Dinnyes, to Bucharest.

Outwardly, the former resulted in a 20-year treaty of friendship, co-operation and material aid between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria—the latter in a cultural and minority agreement between Hungary and Rumania. But, important as these published results are, it is believed that a much more far-reaching understanding was reached and that the Tito-Dinnyes meeting especially was the beginning of much greater things."

The Observer did not list the countries involved in the alleged plan, but quoted Madame Pauker (Rumanian Foreign Minister and Communist representative) as recently saying in a speech, "Yugoslavs, Czechs, Poles, Bulgarians and Rumanians will together be able to defend our freedom, independence and sovereignty."

JAP WARSHIP TO BE SUNK BY GUNFIRE

A Japanese destroyer, Sumire, loaded with obsolete British and Japanese ammunition, will be towed to sea on December 14 and sunk by long range fire from HM ships, London, Sussex, Comus, Coassack and Alacrity.

Part of the Japanese fleet which was divided between China, Great Britain, the USA, and the USSR, the Sumire, manned by a Japanese crew, arrived in Hongkong from Tokyo in early July.

The Royal Navy had no use for the small and obsolete vessel, and will use her for target practice on December 15 and 16 until she is sunk.

The Sumire is anchored at present in the West end of Victoria Harbour.

Other Japanese ships, drawn in the Tokyo lottery, are now in Singapore.

French Strike Control Bill Postponed

GOVERNMENT TO CALL UP 80,000 TROOPS

Paris, Nov. 30.—The National Assembly tonight authorised the government to call up 80,000 troops to maintain order in France, but delayed until Monday further consideration of drastic strike control legislation. This action brought to approximately 300,000 the number of recruits added to the army during the past fortnight.

Earlier, Premier Robert Schuman's supporters beat down a 25-hour Communist effort to take the teeth out of the proposed law to inflict severe penalties on anyone molesting non-strikers or fomenting strikes. Schuman has demanded the unconditional surrender of the forces which have paralysed France with strikes involving more than 2,000,000 workers.

Negotiations between the government and the Communist dominated General Confederation of Labour appeared completely dented. The Communist National Strike Committee announced the terms for ending the strike and threatened to continue the walkout indefinitely.

Approval of the new increase in the strength of the armed forces came near the end of a 35 1/2-hour session of the Assembly—longest since 1926. Originally the provision relating to troops and the strike control legislation were contained in the same bill titled "law for the defence of the Republic."

After defeating Communist efforts to repeal or kill the strike control provisions, the government agreed to a request of the Assembly's legislative commission and divided the measure into two separate bills. The troops bill then was approved 408 to 184 and the strike control measure was left over for tomorrow's session.

Assembly sources predicted that unless a last minute compromise between the government and the CGT were reached, the Assembly would give Schuman the sweeping powers he asks to halt the wave of labour unrest sweeping France.

Earlier, the CGT had offered to call off the nationwide strike if the government would withdraw its strike control legislation. The government replied, it would discuss modifying the measure only after the workers returned to their jobs. The National Strike Committee declared the "reactionary" policy of the present government, leading the working class into insupportable misery and France to an aggravated situation.

A stubborn Communist all-night filibuster in the National Assembly tightened the deadlock today between the Government and Labour over a drastic measure to protect non-strikers in a walkout of 2,000,000 Frenchmen.

The Assembly, striving desperately for a vote on the government bill, stayed in continuous session all night until shortly after 6 a.m. (Paris Time).

Then a Communist deputy staged a sitdown on the lawmakers and interrupted proceedings for 15 minutes.

All night negotiations between a delegate from the General Confederation of Labour and the French Cabinet, aimed at settling all the crippling strikes—broke up at 5.30 a.m.

Communist members of the delegation withdrew. Non-Communist members stayed behind and said they would continue to seek a compromise.

Both the Assembly debate and the labour negotiations dealt squarely with the proposed "law for the defence of the republic," which Premier

Robert Schuman's coalition government introduced in the assembly on Saturday.

WANT STRIKERS BACK
Both the Government and the Communist-dominated CGT want to get the strikers back on the job by Monday.

The government, however, insisted it would not talk about modification of the bill until it had written assurances from the CGT that the strikes would end.

CGT leaders, on the other hand, said they would not give such assurances until they had been advised that the government was ready to withdraw the bill from the legislature.

The CGT delegations met at the Labour Ministry, and the Cabinet in the Assembly corridors. Daniel Mayer, Minister of Social Affairs, acted as go-between with propositions and counter-propositions.

Once Interior Minister Jules Moch "cried" the "last" of the debate that if the Communist obstructionism continued, the government would put the law into effect by decree.

The Communists resorted to every obstructionist method permitted by French parliamentary practice to slow the passage of the proposed defence law, which would provide imprisonment and fines for those holding non-strikers or inciting them to quit work.—Associated Press.

Cabinet Meets In Secrecy

Persia Faces Crisis

Tehran, Nov. 30.—An urgent and secret meeting of the Persian Cabinet to face what political quarters here consider was an impending Cabinet crisis over the Soviet reaction to the rejection by the Persian Parliament of the Soviet-Persian oil agreement of 1946 was called today by the Prime Minister, Ghanvam es Sultaneh.

The oil agreement, signed with Soviet troops still occupying parts of Persia, was recently rejected by the Persian Majlis, an action which was vigorously condemned in a Soviet note and in the Moscow press and radio comment.

A special secret session of the Majlis has also been called for today.

Opposition leaders said today that the violent Moscow Radio campaign against the Premier, who signed the 1946 oil agreement, might culminate in a complete change of Government, with Fakhri Hekmat, the present leader of the Majlis, becoming Premier.

Fakhri Hekmat, who recently had a difference of opinion with Ghanvam es Sultaneh, had openly expressed his willingness to accept the Premier's resignation.

However, the Premier still has a majority in the Majlis, and his followers declared: "There is nobody in the whole of Persia capable of replacing Ghanvam"—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

Mosley's 1947 Fascism

IT is an ironical paradox of Democracy that while one of its fundamental tenets is the freedom of the individual, it permits men with dictatorship ambitions to announce publicly a programme designed to suppress that freedom and to bring a nation under the absolute rule of a machine. The renaissance of Sir Oswald Mosley in politics has produced such a situation in Britain a little more than two years since most of Europe and the Far East was delivered from the same form of tyranny. The sinister figure and intentions of Mosley and his hoodlum followers must not be underrated as their sugar-coated political programme must not be allowed to deceive. Any more than Mosley's airy description of his new movement being "far beyond either fascism or democracy." Mosley and his supporters still believe in suppression of a minority, this in Mosley's announced political creed bears striking resemblance to Hitler's teachings—abolition of what he describes as the "party game" in politics; suppression of the Jews; elimination of Communism. The first point is nothing but a euphemistic description of a dictatorship. Mosley

wants a "system of unified national action to serve the people as effectively in peace as in war," and in the same breath desires to "assert the right and the will of the British people to end all restrictive practices which today threaten the national life." The contradiction is obvious. A system of unified national action means nothing less than the power to govern a country by the dictates of an authoritarian state machine which can only be accomplished by the imposition of restrictions on the personal freedom of the individual. This has been amply demonstrated in all countries where this form of government has managed to place itself in power. Mosley's hatred of the Jews is such that, were he given the power he seeks, he would immediately set into motion programs for their complete annihilation—a well established Fascist method of "solving" a problem. This is not the British way, and it is astonishing that Mosley still suffers a delusion that it is a type of political programme that will make any appeal to the average voter in Britain. Mosley's method for dealing with Communism is typically pathetic. He issues an ultimatum of war based on the threat of the atomic bomb; as though one can destroy ideological beliefs with bombs and bullets. The Mosley pamphlet is nothing but Fascism, 1947 Brand, and it is to be trusted that the British people will not permit themselves to be deceived into thinking otherwise.

Departure Of Troops Delayed

Rome, Nov. 30.—The departure of 2,500 American troops in Italy, planned for Wednesday on the troopship Admiral Sims, had been delayed for a few days owing to transport difficulties, a spokesman of the United States Army said today.

He added, however, that the troops would be evacuated according to the terms of the Italian peace treaty which provided for the evacuation of Allied troops within 90 days of the formal ratification of the treaty.

The Italian peace treaty was ratified on September 15.

The English language in Rome, the Daily American, today quoted a United States Army spokesman as saying that the departure of the troops had been postponed "indefinitely."—Reuter.

French Successes In Tonkin

Paris, Nov. 30.—French troops captured 32 villages and the local Nationalist headquarters in the Hai Duong area of the north Indo-China province of Tonkin, the French Command announced in a communique reported last night by the French news agency.

The communique also reported an advance by French troops near Camau, in Cochinchina, and the capture of three camps near Nha Trang, in the coastal province of Annam.—Reuter.

Gala Performance Of Stage Play

Vice-Admiral Sir Denis Boyd and Lady Boyd will attend tonight's gala performance of "The Inspector Calls," presented by the Hongkong Stage Club at the Missions to Seamen Institute.

The performance is in aid of the Boys' and Girls' Club Association, and it is hoped, will be well patronised.

Test Resumption Doubtful

Brisbane, Nov. 30.—The prospects for tomorrow's resumption of the first Test match between the Indian cricketers and Australia are "unpredictable."

It has been raining on and off today, but several hours of hot sunshine in the morning could alter the outlook.—Reuter.

BULGARIA'S URANIUM ORE MINES

London, Nov. 30.—Reliable private advice reaching London from Sofia today disclosed details on Bulgarian uranium ore mines on which Russia is believed to base part of its atomic energy production plans.

According to this report uranium ore is exploited at two places in western Bulgaria: Strelitza, a township west of Plovdiv, and at the village of Bukhovo, near Makostovo, both places declared out of bounds by the Bulgarian authorities.

Workers employed in the two mines were the most highly paid

workers in the whole of Bulgaria, the report said.

Before the war a German firm was in possession of the concession for exploitation of the Strelitza and Bukhovo mines which thus could be taken over by the Russians as German assets in full agreement with the Bulgarian armistice terms.

For the last two years, the report added, uranium ore supplies were regularly dispatched to the Soviet Union from both mines but the actual output figures constitute a secret most closely guarded by both the Russians and the Ministry for Electrification and National Wealth which was in charge of them on the

Bulgarian side until last week. Now they fall into the competence of the new Ministry of Mines created a few days ago to intensify efforts of the Bulgarian state for speedier exploitation of its underground riches.

Uranium ore, the report said, may be found together with other valuable minerals in the Rhodope mountains in south Bulgaria, where the Bulgarian government intended to carry out systematic geological researches. Soviet mining experts are expected in the new year in Bulgaria, according to an official Bulgarian announcement, to assist the Bulgars to develop more quickly and efficiently their mining riches.—United Press.

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"Even if they do make you and father boiler-makers' mates or something, Godfrey, you might like it after all."

The Spy Who Tried To Trick The B.B.C.

Always, the German Intelligence's main difficulty had been getting information out of Britain. As an island, we still had many advantages when it came to espionage. Spies with wireless transmitters had been caught one after another.

SOME of the most dramatic incidents in the battle of wits between the British Secret Service and the German espionage machine were connected with German attempts to ferret out secrets of our so-called "Second Front."

Raids on the French coast in pre-invasion years were the beginnings of the invasion, for they were intended to reveal the problems to be solved and to test new methods and equipment. These raids reached a climax on August 19, 1942, with the attack on Dieppe and had repercussions in London some months later in the shape of a number of spy trials.

The German High Command had become very perturbed about these raids. Hitler summoned a special war council and the chiefs of the German Intelligence Service were blamed for having failed to secure necessary information about British plans.

Dutch Quisling

SS General Walter Schreckenberg, then in charge of the special department concerned with Nazi Intelligence on the British Second Front preparations, was ordered to get information about future raids at any price. He decided to smuggle into Britain his most efficient spies. One of those selected was Johannes Marinus Dronkers, a Dutchman who turned quisling.

Dronkers had been acting as agent provocateur in the Dutch resistance movement, having managed to secure membership under a false name. After proving himself by betraying some of his comrades to the Gestapo, he was sent to one of the German spy schools where he completed a course lasting several months, covering all branches of his trade.

He was regarded as an ideal agent. Having served in the Dutch merchant navy, he had learnt to speak English fluently and had sufficient knowledge of the Dutch resistance movement to be convincing. He also received training in telegraphy and, for a time, worked in the Dutch post office.

But the British Secret Service is very cautious and very thorough. Dronkers had been passed, but that didn't mean he had been forgotten. Quietly, an investigation had gone on and it so happened that one day, two stern men appeared in Dronkers' office at Radio Oranje.

It was on the eve of his first broadcast — the broadcast he never made. The men were from the Special Branch. They knew all about Dronkers. They had learned it from their own agents in Holland, who had been ordered to make inquiries.

The evidence facing him was so complete that he didn't attempt to deny it, limiting his defence to the story that he'd been forced to spy for the Germans. A jury found him guilty and he was hanged at Wandsworth Gaol.

The stream of refugees across the Channel during the whole of the war provided the British Secret Service with a continuous headache. Ninety-nine percent of the refugees were perfectly genuine men and women, hunted by the Gestapo, in real danger of their lives. But it was obvious that the Germans would attempt to use this refugee stream for slipping in spies. The problem was how to catch the one in 1000 without seriously interfering with the welcome freedom of the genuine ones.

Through The Cordon

It isn't surprising that Dronkers slipped through the first cordon. When he was picked up from a small boat by a British armed trawler, there was no particular reason why his story of having fled from Holland shouldn't be believed. He passed through the control at Harwich and came to London, where he was thoroughly vetted by the Dutch authorities. His letters of recommendation and other papers were found to be genuine.

Vouched for by the Dutch authorities, he was given his freedom and asked for nothing better than to serve the cause in the Dutch Government in London, in however humble a position. He started as a clerk and showed industry and ability. When he suggested that it would be good propaganda for him to broadcast to his former comrades in Holland, the idea was considered favourably. The dream of the German Intelligence was almost coming true.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

CHARLIE SUET'S plan for staggered schedules is the subject of so much comment that I quote today from a powerful leading article:—

"If it be granted that the staggering of schedules is in itself, desirable, then a fully developed scheme would appear to be necessary. But the scheme suggested is incomplete and therefore unworkable; unless one is to assume that those who would have to work it understand it. This is no time for unworkable schemes however innumerable they may be. Indeed the very test of any such scheme is its workability. If it cannot be put into effect it is unworkable save in the most limited sense; and therefore it might as well have been put forward. We need an explanation of what is intended—of anything at all be intended. And we require to understand what is meant by schedules in this case, in what way they are to be staggered and why."

Getting on with it
BUT here is a more favourable view:—

"At last we are down to brass tacks and rock bottom. Staggered schedules are it is true only a means to an end. But such a gesture at such a time is proof that we are not afraid to tackle whatever problem this measure is designed to meet. Those critics who timidly complain that they do not understand what is intended are the kind of people who want to be sure there is a river before they build a bridge. Build the bridge, and the river will look after itself."

Mimsie Slopcorner

"WE are just friends." These words, a tribute to Mimsie Slopcorner in an interview, have been contradicted. An "I" was omitted from the last word, "probably be-

cause you can't eat oysters in August," as a Mrs Trebble explained. Mr. T. Cleverley Grampound, the mayor of Sopping Overcote, when asked to comment, said: "The feeling on my side is warmer than friendship, but I can wait." Mrs Slopcorner said: "Let idle tongues wag. My girl puts her carcase first." The proud father said: "This Mr. Grampound seems to be as silly as Mimsie—and I can't say fairer than that."

In passing

ANY angler worth talking to will admit that some of his happiest days have been those when he caught nothing. The sky and the clouds, he will say, the trees and the quiet water, heat the mind, and the fishing is only incidental. But the Americans are going to change all that. One of them has found a way that of dipping a worm in a chemical solution which will compel fish to bite. It is what one would expect of this day and age.

IN AND OUT OF PARLIAMENT

LOCAL ELECTIONS and a BY-ELECTION

By Ernest Thurtle, M.P.

LABOUR M.P.s are naturally much concerned about the local elections setback. I find no disposition to underrate the significance of the event, nor the implications it contains for the future.

In particular, newcomers to Parliament, of which this House contains a high percentage, are perturbed at this latest revelation that electoral support retains the unstable quality of shifting sand, and is hardly the rock-like foundation it was thought to be a year or so ago.

Many believe, and I think with reason, that Labour's defeat was mainly due to the breaking out of pent-up irritation and disappointment at the continuance of shortages.

IN my view, ideological issues played little part in the results.

We have in the Labour ranks two schools of thought.

One says that the way to retain the favour of the people is by more State control and nationalisation; the other school says the opposite.

Probably the truth is that the electors, who are human enough to be more practical than theoretical, are concerned primarily with results, and very little with how they are achieved.

Some indication, at least, that they are not yearning for more advanced and comprehensive State control is to be found in the decisive fashion in which they rejected all the Communist candidates who appealed for their support.

DISAPPOINTING though it was to learn that the facts and other materials we hope to get from the East African Development scheme will not be along for some years, Mr Strachey's broad picture of this great enterprise was, nevertheless, inspiring.

Parliament for once, apart from little excursions into the past, dropped party recriminations, and in unison wished well to this attempt to change vast areas of sterile bush into flourishing food-production lands.

Dearth that we suffer from at present makes this vision of coming abundance pleasant to the eye.

Its realisation must be pressed forward with all speed.

IN view of the unhappy affair which brought about the local Labour Party have shown wisdom in selecting their new candidate.

Sir Richard Acland is perhaps more a visionary than a practical politician, but from the point of view of personal integrity he is quite above suspicion.

A deeply serious young man, with the speech and manner of a romantic crusader, his appeal will counteract the special kind of Labour which another type of Labour candidate would at present confront the electors of Gravesend.

In this way the issue of the contest will tend to centre on the virtues or failings of the Government, which is as it should be.

Without indulging in rash prophecy, I rate Labour's chance of retaining the seat higher now that the mercurial Sir Richard has entered the tourney as its standard-bearer.

[Sir Richard Acland won the seat by a good margin last Thursday.]

NANCY Top Merchandising



By Ernie Bushmiller



ARAB ANSWER TO PARTITION:

Mass Migration Into Palestine

Flushing Meadows, Nov. 30.—After the United Nations General Assembly had approved last night of the partition of Palestine into separate Arab and Jewish states, Faris El Khoury, leader of the Arab League, warned Arabs and Moslems throughout the world to obstruct the partition.

"All the Arab world—1,000,000,000 people—will oppose it," he added, "and the Jewish State will be stamped out of Asia."

Jamal Hussein, the Arab Higher Committee delegate, declared: "That is a decision of the leaders, and the implementation will have to take place in Palestine. I hope you all live to see and hear of it."

When the partition was approved by 33 votes to 13 with 10 abstentions and one absentee, Pakistan and Arab State delegates declared they would not feel bound by the decision, and reserved the right to whatever action they thought fit and walked out in a body.

Bolivia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Panama and the Philippines were appointed to the United Nations Commission which will take over Palestine when the British withdraw after 25 years of mandatory rule, and will hand over to the Arab and Jewish States.

When last night's session opened, the Arab States made a last minute attempt at a compromise by proposing a six-point federal plan for Palestine with separate Jewish and Arab sectors.

M. Camille Chamoun, of Lebanon, offered the plan as a "basis for an intermediary formula between the two opposing sides."

The proposal was for the establishment of a Federal Independent Palestine State not later than August 1, 1948—the date by which all British troops are scheduled to be withdrawn—and two other provisional governments for the Arab and Jewish cantons.

A Constituent Assembly would be elected on a universal direct suffrage, representing all elements in

proportion to the number of each, to set up executive and judicial organs mainly following the United States Constitution.

U.S. And Russian Opposition
The Arab delegates spoke in favour of this plan. The Russian representative said the proposal "shows that the Arab world wants to avoid conflict at any cost," but the United States and Russia opposed it and called for an immediate vote.

The voting then began in the silence. As the roll call went on, it became clear that the partition plan had won. By the time the final figures were announced, dozens of Jews were crying unashamedly and clapping hands in silent exultation.

Amid demonstrations in the gallery, the Arab delegates, who had until a stern call for silence from the chairman, Dr. Arafat of the Arab Higher Committee, were shouting and cheering. "We hoped the United Nations would elevate moral standards. We hoped the United Nations would uphold justice and peace and security. We had hoped there would be a sound basis for mutual understanding."

"Today's resolution destroyed our hopes. Today's resolution destroyed the Charter. We know the pressure which has been exerted on various delegates by some of the big powers. For these reasons Saudi Arabia registers the fact that she considers herself not bound by the resolution. She reserves the right to act the way she deems fit."

Undermines Peace

Fadhil Hamal Jamal, the Iraq delegate said: "We had hoped for justice. Today that faith was destroyed. We did our best to express the spirit of the Charter. We believe that the decision is a very serious one that undermines peace, justice and democracy."

"In the name of my Government I wish to state that my Government feels this decision is undemocratic, illegal, impractical and against the Charter."

"It contradicts the spirit and letter of the Charter. Therefore, I wish to put on record that my Government does not recognise the validity of this decision. It reserves the freedom of action towards its implementation."

Prince Seif Elislam Abdullah, of the Yemen, also declared his Government reserved all rights over the decision.

Emir Adel Arslan, of Syria, said: "It was always the custom to allow a man to speak freely to his hands. I say, therefore, that the Charter is dead. It was murdered and you all know who are the culprits. My country will never recognise such a decision."

"We will never be responsible for the consequences will fall on your heads, not on ours."

"Turning Point"

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency Executive, in a statement said the action of the General Assembly was a "turning point" in Jewish history.

"We pray for the peace of Palestine. We extend the hand of genuine friendship to the new Arab State. The Jewish nation in Palestine will be eager to co-operate fully with its Arab neighbour and to contribute, within the framework of economic union, to the progress and prosperity of the whole of Palestine."

"In this historic hour we call upon the Arab people of Palestine and all neighbouring Arab countries to join with us in an era of peaceful and fruitful collaboration."

The partition as now accepted, means the establishment in the Holy Land of one Arab and three Jewish States, with a separate administration of the Jerusalem area, the whole three to be linked within an economic union.

The country will be crisscrossed with Arab and Jewish areas from the north to the south.

Mass Migration

"Yesterday, it was reported from Baghdad that after military talks there between Arab military experts, it had been decided to execute some of those decisions, one of which was believed to be the mass migration into Palestine from neighbouring countries."

Abdul Rahman Azzam Pasha, Secretary-General of the Arab League, said in Cairo on Friday that a decision in favour of a partition "could mean only one thing for the Arabs—war against the Jews."

From Cairo reports say that the Egyptian Government placed police forces throughout the country under a "state of emergency" last night as soon as the news of the General Assembly's vote on Palestine partition was received.

This measure was taken to cope with possible anti-Jewish disturbances. The Government is taking further steps to protect Jewish residents and Jewish owned property in Egypt.

Meanwhile, in the Holy City itself and other Middle East countries, tension mounted within a few hours of the historic decision.

In Cairo, Abdel Rahman Pasha Azzam, Secretary-General of the seven-nation Arab League, fresh from a tour of the League's member states, declared: "The partition decision will set fire to the Near East."

Jews Killed

Riad El Solh Bey, the Lebanese Premier, now in Baghdad, spoke of a severe decision by the Arab League, according to which the Syrian and Lebanese armies were ready for action.

There were student demonstrations in Egypt's two chief cities, Cairo and Alexandria.

One 35-year-old Jew was found shot dead near the police headquarters of the all-Arab Palestine town of Jaffa. It was officially stated in Jerusalem, after earlier reports had said that nine Jews had been killed.

Four were said to have been killed in the Arab town of Haifa, near Tel-Aviv, and five in Arab attacks on a Jewish bus in Palestine, in which it was also reported wounded.

British troops, except those on garrison duty in Jerusalem, were confined to barracks, as the Jews celebrated and Arabs protested against the partition decision, Reuter reported from Jerusalem.

Jerusalem had tonight one of the wildest celebrations since V-Day as exuberant Jews and Jewesses thronged the streets.

The final decision to set up a Jewish State was welcomed by Mrs. Golda Myerson, the Jewish Agency's political chief, who spoke of "hands outstretched in peace" to the Arabs, while Mr. David Ben Gurion, the chairman of the Agency Executive said: "At this great hour the Jewish people will not disappoint its historic destiny."

As the all-Arab town of Nablus, 25 miles north of Jerusalem, declared a strike today in protest against the partition, hundreds of demonstrators paraded in the Arab sector of Jaffa, shouting "Down with the United Nations."

The Arab Higher Committee met in an emergency session in Jerusalem, as Arab leaders in neighbouring states spoke defiantly of Arab determination to prevent the partition.

Jewish Statement

Both Jewish and Arab headquarters in London voiced their views today on the United Nations General Assembly vote, the Jewish Agency expressing its joy and gratitude for this "just solution" and the Arab Office refusing to "recognize or accept this decision."

The Jewish Agency issued a statement after a meeting at its London offices saying that Jews all over the world rejoiced in the decision to set up a Jewish State. The statement continued: "The decision to establish a Jewish State in Palestine recognises the justice of the Jewish claim to statehood in its ancient land. It vindicates the wisdom of the great and far-sighted act taken by Great Britain in 1917 when it issued the Balfour Declaration."

It concluded: "It is confident that the new Jewish State will bring peace to Jewish people, progress to the Middle East, and will worthily bear its responsibilities in the community of nations."

M. E. A. A. Director-General of the Arab Office in London, said the United Nations had violated its own Charter by voting for the partition of Palestine.

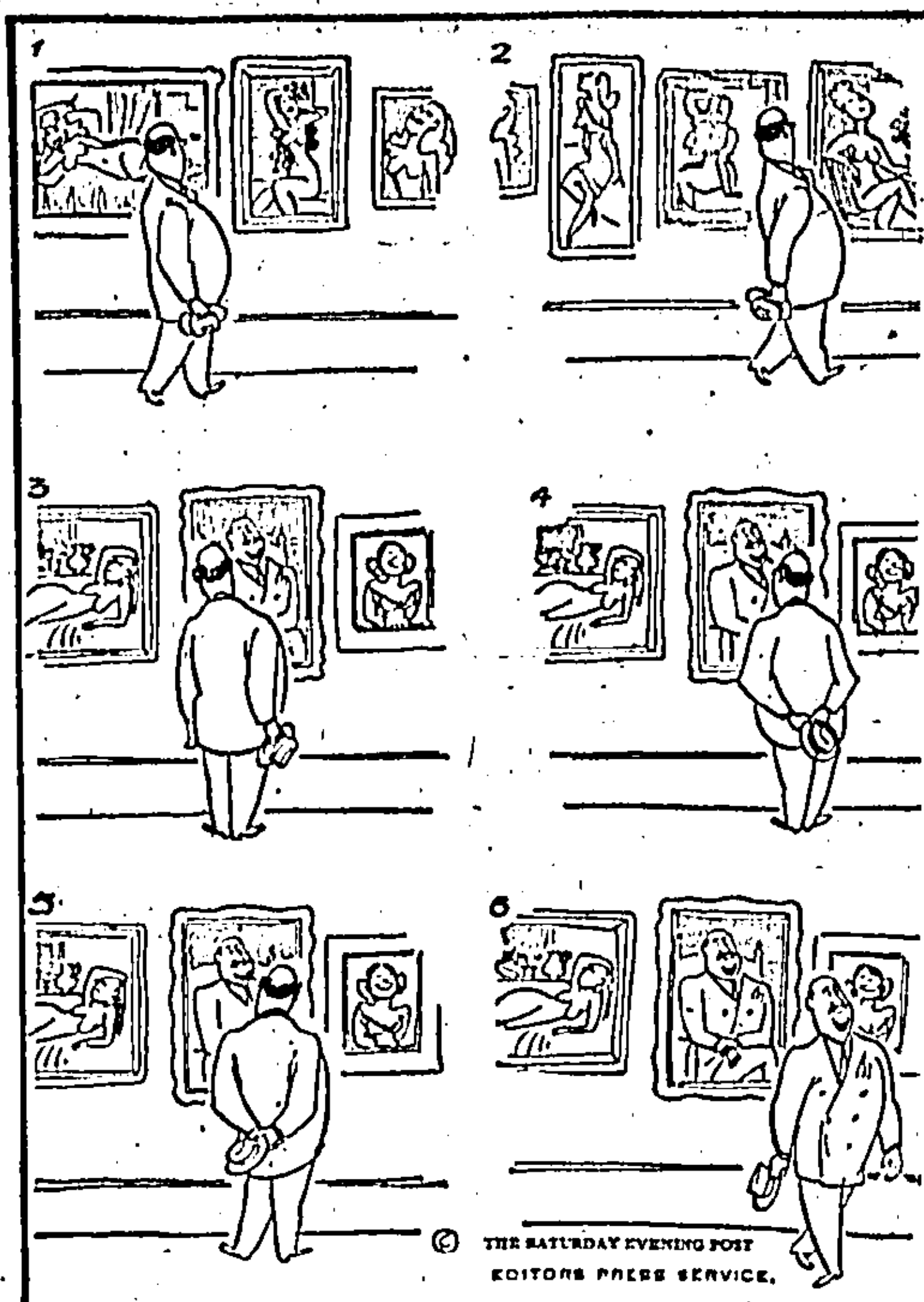
"War Inevitable"

He issued a statement which said of the United Nations: "It has decided to liquidate the entire nation in its own homeland and give its country to another people. It has decided that the majorities shall be suppressed and that aggression shall be upheld. By doing so it has set Arabs and Jews in the Middle East irreversibly against each other and has made war between them inevitable."

After stating that the Arab people would not accept the decision, the statement announced the closing of the Arab Office in Washington and New York. It concluded: "It will also be necessary to remove or abolish a number of other Arab offices, both in scope and personnel. Personnel and resources thus released will be thrown into the new struggle."

Meanwhile, Irgun, Zvai Leumi, the Jewish terrorist organisation, which has been responsible for a great part of the campaign against the British in Palestine, announced from its headquarters today that it would "cease to exist inside the new Jewish State" created by last night's decision.

The fight for "the liberation of the whole of Palestine" would continue, the Irgun declared.—Reuter.



INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION UP IN AMERICAN ZONE

Berlin, Nov. 30.—Industrial production in the American occupation zone of Germany showed slight improvement during October, the report of the American Military Governor disclosed today.

IMPROVING RICE YIELD BY X-RAY

Tokyo, Nov. 30.—Two Japanese scientists today claimed that they had conducted successful experiments which proved that exposure to X-ray for three hours of newly-risen rice seedlings would months later cause a 40 percent increase in the crop harvested from such plants.

Dr. Shigetaka Shimura, of the Tokyo Imperial University, announced today his findings which, he claimed, would be widely applicable and might offer an important contribution to solving Japan's food shortage.

He said experiments were conducted with another university professor and that plants were exposed for periods ranging from 10 minutes to eight hours. They found a three-hour treatment brought outstanding results, while others had no effects or adverse results.

Dr. Shimura said he used an X-ray machine of 110,000 volts and three milliamperes, but was planning to reduce the voltage to around 50,000 for the widest possible farm use.—United Press.

DATE FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL

Leghorn, Nov. 30.—Maj.-Gen. Lawrence Jaynes, Commander of the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations, confirmed tonight that the United States Army forces in Italy will withdraw by midnight December 14, the deadline set by the peace treaty.

Jaynes said he "could not" give the reason for the delay in the departure of the last troops, who had been scheduled to leave the region on December 3 aboard a transport.

He said some soldiers are already aboard the transport but they would return to Leghorn camp until the new departure date is set.

Jaynes said the formal ceremony of closing the theatre, which has been set for Wednesday, would be held later.—United Press.

"FAKED" DRUGS IN JAPAN

Tokyo, Nov. 30.—The Welfare Ministry reported today that over 60 percent of Japanese drugs on the market was "faked," according to a recent official check-up.

The Ministry added that the actual figure probably was even higher since many drug stores and manufacturers handling black market materials offered only minimum co-operation with the investigation. During the investigation, launched in October, the Ministry's chemists handled 6,039 cases of which they found that 3,782 cases failed to meet the official regulations for manufacture and sale of medical supplies.—United Press.

Pope At Vatican

Vatican City, Nov. 30.—Pope Plus XII returned to the Vatican on Saturday night from his Castel Gandolfo summer home, where he has been since July 31.—Associated Press.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. In 1665 in England by William Booth. 2. Rain water. 3. Because they provide a firm base for the soil and prevent erosion. 4. King Edward VIII of England when he abdicated his throne. 5. It is very small, weighing about 10 ounces. 6. In 1920.

Russia Trying To Delay Japan Peace Settlement

Washington, Nov. 30.—Responsible quarters here show obvious disappointment over Russia's latest attempt to restrict negotiation of the Japanese peace treaty to the Big Four nations, and widespread speculation has arisen as to what advantages the Soviets may think they can gain by such tactics.

One informed source said apparently Russia wanted to keep her grip on Manchuria indefinitely, and at the same time load the United States as long as possible with the burden of supporting Japan.

He said whatever might be the case, Russia's latest move meant delay in coming to an agreement. He explained that it brought the situation around in a circle to where it was before the latest exchange of proposals between the United States, China and Russia.

Russia's proposed method of handling the peace would give each of the Big Four the veto over anything it disliked. The United States method would avoid that by negotiation among the 12 countries which make up the Far Eastern Commission.

It is learned authoritatively that Russia still insists that the Potsdam conference laid the basis for the

Japanese peace treaty settlement through the Foreign Ministers, but the United States contends Potsdam dealt exclusively with the European peace settlement.

Next Move?

Authoritative sources today said the United States would have to start all over again looking for a solution of the impasse over Japan. They said they had no idea what the next move would be. They were of the opinion that it would depend upon what U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall finally decides, and he might reach a decision only on the basis of progress in the European settlement in London.

The authoritative sources said it was the general impression among experts here that Russian tactics on the German and Austrian treaties were to delay as long as possible. They said there seemed to be reason to assume the Soviets had the same policy as regards the Japanese settlement.

Greater Gain

They speculated that, with their present hold on Port Arthur and Dairen, the Russians dominated North China, which was a greater gain to them than they could normally expect through a peace settlement. At the same time, these sources said, the United States was saddled with the cost of feeding the Japanese and other occupation expenses as long as there was no treaty.

The Soviets are probably glad to see this, in addition to the billions of dollars the United States is spending to help Europe to escape confusion. Many authorities believe the Russians expect the United States eventually to suffer an economic depression or a collapse from the burdens it is carrying and the alleged "evils" of the capitalist system.

Meanwhile, informed sources think that the Russians calculate they have a period in which to recover from war devastation, which is universally acknowledged was severe.

Attention To Asia

Otherwise, in Washington in the past week Asia won a large share of attention as Congress and administration officials discussed how financial help for that part of the world, especially China and the Philippines, should be linked with European aid.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee cut down the proposed \$500 million aid to Europe by many millions of dollars in order to add \$50,000,000 to China. On the Senate side, several members spoke against giving aid exclusively to Europe at this time. For example, Senator Wayne Morse said the Far East was an important segment of the economic front which the United States must assist and that efforts in Europe might be undermined in Asia unless it was given there also.—United Press.

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Notice To Shareholders

Notice is hereby given that an Interim Dividend of One Dollar per share and a Bonus of One Dollar per share has been declared payable on the 15th December, 1947, free of tax.

The Share Transfer Books will be closed from Monday, 8th December, 1947, to Monday, 15th December, 1947 (inclusive) for the purpose of the preparation of Dividend Warrants.

Dividend Warrants will be issued at the Registered Office of the Company, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, Hongkong between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Monday, 15th December, 1947.

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TOGLIATTI THREATENS CIVIL WAR

Rome, Nov. 30.—Leftists closed a month of protest against the government today with a parade of 10,000 partisans in Genoa, and a Communist Party leader pointing to the possibility of civil war.

A dispatch from Genoa said a peaceful parade and mass meeting in the northern seaport attracted demonstrators from throughout the surrounding region of Liguria. The speaker was Walter Audisio, who claims to have killed Benito Mussolini.

Communist leader Palmiro Togliatti, writing in the Party's Rome newspaper, *Unita*, said the Christian Democratic government of Premier Alcide de Gasperi had provoked public demonstrations on Friday and yesterday in Milan in efforts to find a pretext for "outlawing the Communist Party."

Totalitarian Tendencies

Today in Italy, to invoke putting the Communists outside the law, he declared, "is to invoke civil war, a civil war in which I believe many now have understood that the defeated will not be those who, however, do not want civil war."

Benedetto Croce, 81-year-old philosopher and statesman, told the Liberal Party at its fourth national congress tonight to look neither to the right nor to the left. He said the four years since the Liberal reorganisation had "confirmed" the necessity for "a party whose fundamental task would be the reconstruction of liberty and its defence in the face of 'totalitarian tendencies that remained' and 'other totalitarianisms that are not Fascist or Nazi.'—Associated Press.

Communist Harangue

Genoa, Nov. 30.—Italy's No. 2 Communist and partisan Commander-in-Chief, Luigi Longo, told a meeting of more than 20,000 Italians here today: "We must fight to preserve our liberties."

He gave a military address after the partisans paraded through Genoa's main streets. Longo said: "Democratic liberty and new life have not been attained. Yes, and we will have to continue to fight to be able to win them. We must continue to fight only to preserve them and to realise everything that is necessary in order that the people may be free and happy.—United Press.

SHIPPING TIE-UP THREAT

San Francisco, Nov. 30.—Possible tie-up of 70 vessels in Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific ports was at stake today as United States and foreign consuls hammered at a deadlock between shipowners and masters, mates and pilots with existing contracts expiring at midnight tonight.

Captain C. F. May, president of the American Federation of Labour Unions, said the ships will be immobilised if an accord is not reached within 24 hours after the expiration.—Associated Press.